

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A DSS terrestrial-satellite communications network for delivering information to an interactive viewing device without the need for a user to possess additional communications hardware, the network comprising:

means for selecting, acquiring and editing ~~certain~~ content specific information;

a first network computer having memory storage means for storing said information;

a central network computer;

means for transmitting the content specific information from said first network computer to said central network computer;

one or more communication satellites for receiving and transmitting broadcast signals, where the broadcast signals are associated with discrete broadcast channels;

uplink means coupling the content specific information and discrete broadcast channels from said central network computer to said satellites ~~in the form of said broadcast signals wherein~~ said central network computer includes a means to couple said content specific information to the discrete broadcast channels, where said specific content information has similar subject matter content as the coupled discrete broadcast channel;

downlink means coupling said broadcast signals channels and specific content information from said satellites to a receiving antenna situated within said satellite's coverage area;

an IRD connected to said receiving antenna;

a means residing in the IRD that decouples the specific content information from each respective discrete broadcast channel and directs the specific content information to the interactive viewing device and the broadcast channel to a passive viewing device;

a ~~hardwired RS-232 serial connection connector~~ between said interactive viewing device

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 3

and the IRD;

a low-speed serial data port on the interactive viewing device to receive the content specific information via the serial connection, said interactive viewing device containing means for displaying the content specific information on said interactive viewing device; and
a memory storage device situated within said interactive viewing device.

2. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 1 wherein said interactive viewing device is a personal computer.

3. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 1 wherein said interactive viewing device is a PDA.

4. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 1 further comprising means for automatically storing said content specific information in said memory storage device.

5. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 1 wherein said broadcast signals further comprise audio and video DSS signals bundled with the content specific information, said audio and video signals corresponding to a selected television channel.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 1 further comprising a second network

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 4

computer for processing, formatting and storing said content specific information.

9. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 1 wherein the content specific information comprises at least television program guide data.

10. (Original) The network of claim 9 wherein said program guide data is compiled at one or more repository broadcast centers situated at a location remote from said first network computer, and transmitted to said first network computer.

11. (Original) The network of claim 10 wherein said program guide data comprises television program information for an entire channel over the course of a predetermined number of hours.

12. (Currently Amended) A DSS terrestrial-satellite internet communications network for delivering content specific HTML-formatted information retrieved from the internet to a interactive viewing device without the need for a user to possess additional communications hardware, the network comprising:

means for selecting, acquiring and editing certain content specific HTML-formatted information retrieved from the internet;

a first network computer having memory storage means for storing said content specific information;

a central network computer;

means for transmitting the content specific information from said first network computer to said central network computer;

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 5

one or more communication satellites for receiving and transmitting broadcast signals, where the broadcast signals are associated with discrete broadcast channels;

uplink means coupling the content specific information and discrete broadcast channels from said central network computer to said satellites ~~in the form of said broadcast signals wherein~~ said central network computer includes a means to couple said content specific information to the discrete broadcast channels, where said specific content information has similar subject matter content as the coupled discrete broadcast channel;

downlink means coupling said broadcast ~~signals~~ channels and specific content information from said satellites to a receiving antenna situated within said satellite's coverage area;

an IRD connected to said receiving antenna;

a means residing in the IRD that decouples the specific content information from each respective discrete broadcast channel and directs the specific content information to the interactive viewing device and the broadcast channel to a passive viewing device;

a ~~hardwired RS-232 serial connection~~ connector between said interactive viewing device and the IRD;

a low-speed serial data port on the interactive viewing device to receive the content specific information via the serial connection, said interactive viewing device containing means for displaying the content specific information on said interactive viewing device; and

a memory storage device situated within said interactive viewing device.

13. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 12 wherein said interactive viewing device is a personal computer.

14. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 12 wherein said interactive viewing

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 6

device is a PDA.

15. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 12 further comprising means for automatically storing the content specific information on said interactive viewing device's memory storage device.

16. (Original) The network of claim 12 wherein said means for displaying said information comprises a browser.

17. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 12 wherein said broadcast signals further comprise audio and video DSS signals bundled with the content specific information, said audio and video signals corresponding to a selected television channel.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 12 further comprising a second network computer for processing, formatting and storing said content specific information.

21. (Currently Amended) The network of claim 12 wherein the content specific information comprises at least television program guide data.

22. (Original) The network of claim 21 wherein said program guide data is compiled at

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 7

one or more repository broadcast centers situated at a location remote from said first network computer, and transmitted to said first network computer.

23. (Original) The network of claim 22 wherein said program guide data comprises television program information for an entire channel over the course of a predetermined number of hours.

24. (Currently Amended) An IRD incorporated into a DSS terrestrial-satellite communications network, said IRD capable of transmitting received satellite-broadcast signals in discrete broadcast channels including data content specific information, said IRD comprising:

a first port to provide linking means to a television; and

a second port to provide linking means to an interactive viewing device, wherein said linking means is a low-speed serial data port capable of transferring the content specific information via a ~~hardwired~~ RS-232 serial connection ~~connector~~ to said viewing device without the need for a user to possess a dedicated telephone line or a modem.

25. (Currently Amended) The IRD of claim 24 wherein said broadcast ~~signals~~ comprise audio and video signals ~~channels are~~ bundled with the content specific information, wherein said specific content information has similar subject matter content as the respective discrete broadcast channels.

26. (Currently Amended) The IRD of claim 24 wherein said interactive viewing device is a personal computer.

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 8

27. (Currently Amended) The IRD of claim 24 wherein said interactive viewing device is a PDA.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering information to an interactive viewing device via a terrestrial-satellite communications network without the need for a user to possess additional communications hardware comprising the steps of:

selecting, retrieving and storing content specific information on a first network computer;

transferring said content specific information to a central network computer where said content specific information is stored;

coupling said content specific information to discrete broadcast channels, where said specific content information has similar subject matter content as the coupled discrete broadcast channels;

uplinking said coupled content specific information and discrete broadcast channels from said central network computer to one or more said satellites in the form of a broadcast signal;

downlinking said broadcast signals from said satellites to a receiving antenna connected to an IRD;

decoupling said content specific information from discrete broadcast channels via the IRD;

transmitting said content specific information from said IRD to said interactive viewing device;

using a RS-232 serial connection to serially connect said interactive viewing device to said IRD via a low speed serial data port, said interactive viewing device further including a memory storage device; and

displaying said content specific information on said interactive viewing device via

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 9

displaying means.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of automatically storing said content specific information on a memory storage device situated within said interactive viewing device.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein said broadcast signals comprise audio and video signals bundled with said content specific information, said audio and video signals corresponding to a selected television channel.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~32~~ 30 wherein the content specific information comprises HTML-formatted data retrieved from the internet.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33 wherein said displaying means comprises a browser.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the content specific information comprises at least television program guide data.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein the content specific

Applicant: Soloff et al.
Serial No.: 09/733,229
Page 10

information comprises at least television program guide data and HTML-formatted information retrieved from the internet.

37. (Previously Amended) The method of 36 wherein said program guide data is compiled at one or more repository broadcast centers situated at a location remote from said first network computer, and transmitted to said first network computer.